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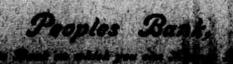
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The Seeding of Wheat

Correctly Proportioned Fertilizers and Good Seed Are Important Factors in Increasing the Yield

By C. B. Hutchison, Assistant Professor of Agronomy, College of Agriculture, U. of Ma.

Wheat responds to an application of fertilizer more freely than any other field crop grown in Missouri. In general, it responds most strikingphosphorus, and fertilizers of this na- used. ture nearly always give good returns.

The results secured on the university experiment fields in various parts of years, both at Columbia and by of the state show that on the average to good uplands the use of bonemeal throughout the state. These experi-

The Use of Good Seed. Another factor which controls the

yield of the wheat crop is the seed, and only good seed of some variety ly to the application of nitrogen and best suited to one's locality should be

> The experiment station has been testing wheat varieties for a number means of co-operative experiments



or other phosphatic fertilizers with ments show that there is no one vawheat is advisable, since most Missouri soils are lacking in available phosphates. Steam bonemeal should be used and an application of 125 to 150 pounds, made with a fertilizer drill, as the wheat is sown.

On the lands that have been worn by continued cropping the use of a complete fertilizer containing 3 to 4 per cent nitrogen, 8 to 10 per cent available phosphoric acid and 3 to 4 per cent potash, applied at the rate of 125 to 150 pounds to the acre, is good. Another fertilizer that will bring good returns on these thin lands is one containing around 2 per cent nitrogen, 8 to 10 per cent available potash.

This is a lower grade fertilizer than the first one mentioned and should be used at a little heavier rate, say from 150 to 200 pounds per acre. These fertilizers will not only increase the yield of the wheat crop, but will aid materially in getting a stand of grass where these crops follow the wheat.

riety of wheat that is universally adapted to all soils, nor even to the same soil for all seasons. It is evident from the results of these experiments, however, that certain varieties are very superior to others where averages are considered. And there is no doubt that if farmers were careful to use only pure strains of some one or another of these better varieties the average yield of the state would be greatly increased without modifying the other methods of handling the wheat crop.,

Unfortunately, the varieties which average highest are not all available phosphoric acid and 2 to 3 per cent in this state and cannot always be secured. Among the best varieties of the bearded wheats are: (1) Deitz, (2) Rudy, (3) Mediterranean, (4) Fulcaster and (5) Lebanon; and of the smooth wheats (1) Michigan Wonder, (2) Jones Red Wave, (3) Hickman, (4) Beechwood, (5) Hybrid, (6) Dawson's Golden Chaff, (7) Early Ripe, (8) Poole and (9) Fultz.

PREPARING SEEDBED SO AS TO INCREASE YIELD IN MISSOURI.

By C. B. Hutchison, Assistant Professor of Agronomy, University of Missouri.

The average yield of wheat in Missouri for the past te nyears has been about 13.7 bushels per acre. It requires approximately 13 bushels of wheat at the average November price for the last decade to meet this expense, together with that of taxes, interest on the investment and the value of plant food removed from the land.

This evidently means that there are a great many farmers in the state who are actually growing wheat at a loss. Of course, there are sections where wheat is especially adapted, where much better yields than these are obtained, but at the same time there are many farms where the yield of wheat is not what it should be. and where its growing has not been very profitable.

It is, of course, realized by many farmers that the wheat crop, as they grow it, is not in itself a very profitable one, but it fits into the rotation so well and is of such importance as a nurse crop for grass and clover that it is often grown for these reasons.

There is no reason why wheat should not be made a profitable crop in practically every section of this state, and close attention to those factors controling the profitable production of the crop will aid materially in increasing its value and importance throughout the state. It is to some of these factors that the reader's atten-tion is directed at this time.

favorable for rapid germination and

growth of the wheat. A few years ago, in an experiment conducted by the Kansas station, early-plowed land gave much better results than that plowed late. Similar results were secured by the Oklahoma experiment station. While it is perhaps not so important that wheat land be plowed as early in Missouri as in other states, yet early plowing is to be recommended in practically all cases.

The depth of plowing depends large ly upon the soil and upon the time. On deep soils land for what is best plowed deep, providing the plowing be done early enough for the proper preparation of the seedbed. An ideal seedbed for wheat is one which has been stirred deep, well-compacted below and with a loose layer of soil on top. It takes considerable time to work the ground down in good shape, and this is another reason why the land should be plowed early.

Where it is necessary to plow late. land is usually plowed shallow, since it is a difficult matter to compact the seedbed where it is plowed just a few days previous to seeding. A good double discing before plowing will aid in compacting the seedbed, for the loosened soil will fall to the bottom of the furrow and fill the air spaces that otherwise would be left there. Discing is to be recommended before plowing for wheat in most cases, especially where the plowing is done late or where much weeds, grass and other organic matter is to be turned un-

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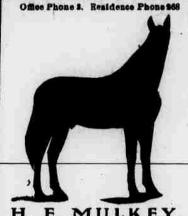
He will also tell you that he is treated with courtesy and his wants promptly attended to.

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State Fair Premium Lists

The county clerk has just received number of copies of the Missouri State Fair premium list for 1913. These are for free distribution in the county and any one may secure them by calling at the county clerk's office, or writing the secretary of the Missouri State Fair, Sedalia.

The premium list shows increase in premiums over previous years which means that the State Fair is growing. One especially noticeable thing in this year's premium list, on page 8, is the establishment of Boy's State Fair School. This new feature promises to be one of great value to every part of the state, one boy from each county will be en

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